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STATE FOR L/PM (M. COFFEE), PM/PPA (S. KWAK), AND WHA/CEN (E. TELLO)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KTIA MARR MASS PGOV PM XK

SUBJECT: PANAMA: DEMARCHE SEEKING 505 AGREEMENT WITH PANAMA THAT MAY APPLY TO THE 1206 PROGRAM AND OTHER PROGRAMS DELIVERED

REF: 06 STATE 115784

"We do not foresee any problem" entering into a 505 agreement with respect to the 1206 program, Panamanian MFA Senior Advisor Adolfo Ahumada told POLCOUNS and NASCHIEF on April 4. Noting that he had worked on a similar agreement to provide end-use, security and retransfer assurances for helicopters during former President Ernesto "El Toro" Perez Balladares' tenure, Ahumada said that these kinds of exchanges of diplomatic notes were "routine." Accompanied by MFA Legal Advisor Iana Quadri, Ahumada said that they would translate the proposed texts, analyze them, and provide a response to our proposal as soon as possible.

ARREAGA